

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 7/5/58

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (94-604)

SUBJECT: VINCENZO AMMERATO was
 James Emery, Vincenzo Immarato,
 James Amarati, Jimmy Emeritus,
 Jim Emerica, James Ammirato
 ANTI-RACKETEERING

Chicago newspapers reported that in testimony before the Mc Clellan Committee on June 30, 1958, it was alleged that JAMES EMERY was the leader of the Mafia in this area prior to his death in 1957.

I thought the Bureau might be interested in knowing what is contained in Chicago files on EMERY and a summary thereof is enclosed herewith.

- ② - Bureau (Encl. 2)
 1 - Chicago

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 2 ENCLOSURE
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92-3728-1
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EXP. PROC.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, CHICAGO (94-604)

DATE: July 3, 1958

FROM : [REDACTED] CORRELATION CLERKS
ATT'N: SA FRANCIS W. MATTHYSb6
b7CSUBJECT: VINCENZO AMMERATTI aka
James Emery
ANTI-RACKETEERING

It should be noted that this memo contains all identical criminal references. No identical security references could be located.

I. GENERAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES31-3324-44

Memo SAC from SA JEROME DOYLE at Chicago, Illinois, dated April 6, 1936 reflects that houses of prostitution were being maintained and operated indirectly by Chicago Heights gangsters at 2606 South Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, Illinois. This address was also the headquarters of VINCENZO IMMARATA, alias JIMMIE EMERY. It was reported that he was actively engaged in transporting girls from Chicago to Indiana.

31-3324-50

SA JEROME DOYLE's memo to SAC, Chicago dated April 16, 1936 states that he obtained from Immigration and Naturalization Service [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] five pages of typewritten notes.

Informant (identity not stated in notes) stated

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1.

ENCLOSURE

CG 94-604

62-3286-92

One [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed by SA [redacted]
[redacted] at which time he advised [redacted]

[redacted] advised that a man named EMERY (probably meaning JIMMY EMERY) ran the horse racing, prostitution, gambling and slot machines for the Chicago Heights gangsters. He stated that the tie-up [redacted]

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62-3283-1 p.1,5

Memo, SAC; Chicago from SA [redacted]
dated September 29, 1943 regarding "Underworld Activities, Chicago Heights, Illinois" reflects that on September 22, 1943, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] of Chicago Heights, Illinois, as per his telephone request to Special Agent ERNEST C. CASSILL.

The [redacted] stated that about five and one-half years ago, SAM COSTELLO, Chicago Heights was murdered and that SAM used to head all the rackets in Chicago Heights, Illinois. That immediately upon the death of SAM COSTELLO, one JIMMY EMERY whose real name was believed to be JIMMY AMARATI and who lived in the 2600 block on Chicago Heights, took over as head of the rackets.

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The [redacted] stated that JIMMY EMERY started out as more or less a pimp and that he believed EMERY used to control several houses and then worked in on the gambling racket when SAM COSTELLO was killed and that he now ran all the mobs.

The [redacted] stated that the States' Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's office of Cook County had often questioned him, but had never gotten anywhere. The [redacted] further stated that he believed [redacted] of whom there were several members still living

62-3283-1 p.1,5 Cont.

had it in for EMERY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On September 22, 1943, SA [REDACTED] obtained the Selective Service file of AMARATI from [REDACTED] Local Draft Board No. 13, Flossmor. Said file revealed that his correct name was VINCENZO AMMERATO, alias JIMMY EMERY; that he was residing at 2606 Chicago Road, South Chicago Heights, Illinois, that he was born November 2, 1892, Cosenzo, Italy; that he was self employed--owned seven race horses--claiming his occupation to be "race horse owner and trainer" for the past twelve years. VINCENZO AMMERATO was described as:

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Height:	5 feet 5 inches
Weight:	170 pounds
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Black
Complexion:	Dark

Also in the files of Local Draft Board No. 13, Flossmor, was a file on AMMERATO's son RALPH AMMERATO, alias RALPH EMERY. RALPH EMERY's Selective Service file indicated that he lived at the same address as his father, but was at that time living at 2321 Colosseum Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, as of July 22, 1943. RALPH EMERY's occupation was given as that of bookmaker on horses at 122 South Clark Street, Chicago, for the past six years. He was classified as 4-F, remediable, and his file indicated that he held Social Security Number 350-01-8375. His file also indicated that he was formerly employed by the Owl Club, Plumber Street, Calumet City. RALPH EMERY was described as follows:

Marital Status:	Single
Age:	29 years
Date of Birth:	September 28, 1913
	Chicago Heights, Illinois
Height:	5 feet 7 inches
Weight:	135 pounds
Eyes:	Hazel
Hair:	Brown
Complexion:	Dark

62-3283-1 p.1,5 Cont.

On September 22, 1943, Chief of Police, JOE DINEEN of Flossmor, Illinois, who was being contacted on another matter gave the information that he believed JOE EMERY to be the "Boss" of all known gangsters.

62-3375-24 p.5

Memo, SAC Chicago dated Joliet, Illinois, October 1, 1944 from SA [redacted] regarding "Crime Survey; Joliet Resident Agency Information Concerning" reflects in part the following:

"It has been determined that at the present time there are no houses of prostitution, no slot machines and no gambling or bookie joints operating in the city of Chicago Heights. However there exists in Chicago Heights a so called syndicate which formerly controlled the operation of all these activities in and around Chicago Heights. As previously indicated this organization is attempting to gain control in Calumet City to replace their activities that formerly took place in and around Chicago Heights. This syndicate was formerly controlled by one SAM COSTELLO of Chicago Heights. However about 6 years ago, SAM COSTELLO was murdered. Immediately after his death, one JIMMY EMERY took over as head. EMERY, whose real name is VINCENZO AMMERATO, is alleged to have formerly been a pimp and to have controlled several houses and then worked into the gambling racket before taking over control of the whole syndicate. [redacted]

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[redacted] The headquarters of the syndicate was the back room behind the bar in the Thomas Hotel, Chicago Heights. However since the activities of this group have been curtailed for sometime LAPORTE had entered the US Navy, enlisting on October 27, 1942 as a s l/c, Navy serial #7256831."

"The following information regarding JIMMY EMERY, alias AMMERATO is being set forth:

It has been determined that this person's correct name is VINCENZO AMMERATO and he resides at 2606

CG 94-604

62-3375-24 p.5 Cont.

Chicago Road, South Chicago Heights. He was born November 2, 1892, at Cosenzo, Italy and claims to be self employed, being the owner of 7 race horses, his occupation being that of race horse owner and trainer. AMMERATO was at one time denaturalized afterwards in Chicago on the grounds that he resided outside the jurisdiction of the Chicago Heights city court at the time he was naturalized by said court. "

[REDACTED]

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"Concerning any possible tie up between the syndicate and labor unions, it was determined that there was no connections except in one possible instance. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

62-3679-171

This serial is a sheet of paper containing the notation "Received from [REDACTED] May, 1946."

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62-3679-171 Cont.

Enclosed with the sheet of paper was a report (typewritten) dated for May (day illegible) reading as follows:

"I dont know whether youd be particularly interested in this nor how much truth there is to it but a friend of mine [redacted] in one of the rough dives out in Calumet City insists to me that JIMMY EMERY of Chicago Heights (his right name is EMERITUS; hes a dago) is the current AL CAPONE in these parts. This guy (in whom I havent much confidence) says EMERY is a real behind the scenes big shot and can give orders even to TONY ACCARDO and the rest of the mobsters in Chicago. You probably have heard of or about him. He seems now to have acquired a lot of wealth at least; has a string of horses running on the tracks, etc. I checked this last with our horse expert, [redacted] and he knew about him and his horses, said he can get a list of them if desired. My informant gave me the information in connection with the [redacted] kidnaping. He suspected this Chicago Heights mob headed by EMERY had [redacted] Said four of EMERY's henchmen- two known [redacted] and two others, who had hung around Calumet City persistently, had disappeared from there on the Saturday that [redacted] was kidnaped and didnt show up again for a number of days - at least until [redacted] was released. He says that the mob (including the Chicago end) have the gambling privileges (craps etc) slot machines, furnished of girls and booze privileges, divided up for Calumet City and that its all directed by EMERY; that the dive owners there all kick in weekly to a pot, making up about \$10,000 for protection from the highway, state and other police and some federal men. If EMERITUS is not a gang boos now he has been in the past. In a piece on Chicago Heights published in the Tribune, April 26, 1936 and written by LLOYD WENDT (hes one of those kids that would get something if it fell on him;) there is the following paragraph:

'JIMMY EMERY (EMERITUS) took over Chicago Heights for CAPONE. Two of the largest handbooks outside of Chicago operated within two blocks of the city hall. Gambling houses and speakeasies operated freely in all parts of the town. Only when a Genna detachment under [redacted] took over the alcohol privileges and cut into the easy

CG 94-604

62-3679-171 Cont.

money was there any trouble. The ensuing shootings on Chicago Heights third ward the sobriquet of 'Bloody Third.'

62-3679-1194

Memo SAC, Chicago from SA [redacted] dated 9/3/46, regarding "CAPGA" [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] furnished the information that CONSTANT GEORGE TUFFANELLI was very closely associated with JIMMY EMERY who resided at Chicago Road and 26th Street, Chicago Heights, Illinois. [redacted] stated that EMERY at one time operated a number of houses of prostitution and at the present time was engaged in the juke box business.

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62-3679-1893 p.2

Memo SAC, Chicago from SA J. HERBERT FOLEY, dated October 15, 1946 entitled "CAPGA" sub-caption "Chicago Heights, Illinois" [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] furnished the information that JIMMY EMERY, alias JIMMY AMERATI, was reputed to be in control of all the illegal activities in the community at the present time. [redacted] stated that he did not believe this to be true since AMERATI was seldom in the community and was usually travelling around the country with a string of race horses which he owned. AMERATI lived at 26th Street and Chicago Road, in Chicago Heights, Illinois.

On August 15, 1946, SA MARK M. MC SHURLEY observed the automobile of JAMES EMERY, 1946 Illinois license 1507-507 parked at the rear of the Owl Club in Calumet City, Illinois. The automobile registration for the car was checked and showed that it was a 1946 Cadillac Sedan, Engine #5400646. The address of JAMES EMERY was given as 2606 South Chicago Heights, Illinois. The Owl Club was a large gambling establishment located in Calumet City, Illinois.

62-3375-685 p. 28, 375

General Crime Survey, Period: 4-15-46 to 4-15-47
Chicago Field Division General Crime Conditions Within
The Chicago Field Division reflects that FRANK LA PORTE
still controlled juke box business in and around the Chicago
Heights area. Among those associated with LA PORTE was JIMMY
EMERY. EMERY in the past had operated houses of prostitution.
But at the election of Sheriff WALSH in Cook County, the houses
in Chicago Heights had been closed.

Page 375

Same information as above referring to subject
was JIMMIE EMERY. Also adds that JIMMIE EMERY had a
stable of horses.

87-1248-15

Re Memo to SAC, Chicago, Illinois dated April 30,
1947 re: Subject, [REDACTED] National Stolen Property
Act." Memo was written by SA RAYMOND J. DRISCOLL.

The following information has been submitted by
SA JAMES A. HANLEY of Joliet, in response to a lead to
ascertain to whom Chicago Heights [REDACTED] telephone number is
registered.

Chicago Heights [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Resident Agent HANLEY received information from
[REDACTED] who informed HANLEY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had little
or no information to offer.

According to bureau records [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It was reported by the credit

87-1248-15 Cont.

bureau that [redacted] carries on a business with the old time mobsters, such as JIMMIE EMERY, FRANK LA PORTE, [redacted]

The clerk at the credit bureau understood that [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

58-194-796 p.22,24

Report of SA [redacted] (A) at Chicago, Illinois dated 2/17/48 entitled "LOUIS CAMPAGNA, with aliases, ET AL" [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] He was of the opinion that [redacted] was a personal friend and visited with one JIM EMERY, whose Italian name was EMERICA. He was also of the opinion that EMERY ran the Ace Liquor Store on Chicago Street, Chicago Heights, across the street from the Walgreen Drug Store. Further inquiry at the Ace Liquor Store brought out the fact that the store was [redacted] the [redacted]

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[redacted] had a reputation as a bootlegger, and had [redacted] and vicinity for many years under various firm names. [redacted]
[redacted]

Page 24

Investigation revealed that JIM EMERY resided at 2606 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, Illinois. [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] advised that EMERY owned several race horses and he was at that time probably racing his horses at one of the southern race tracks. He stated EMERY drove a Cadillac car which bore both Illinois and Florida license plates but he did not know the numbers.

58-194-877 p.23

Report of SA ADRIAN L. MEYER (A), at Chicago, Illinois, dated 2/25/48 regarding "LOUIS CAMPAGNA, was., ET AL" reflects that an attempt was made to locate JIM EMERY at 2606 Chicago Road, and it was ascertained from his wife that both JAMES and their son, RALPH, were at the time at the Hialeah Race Track in Miami, Florida. She stated that she did not know their exact address in Florida but they should be able to reach him through the race track inasmuch as they were racing a string of their own horses. She also advised that the name EMERY was an Anglicized spelling of the Italian name AMMIRATO.

58-194-963 p.5

Report of SA EDWARD L. DUBOIS, JR., at Miami, Florida dated 3/1/48 regarding "LOUIS CAMPAGNA, was., etal" reflects that the United States Attorney in Chicago desired the location of [] so that a Grand Jury subpoena might be served on him by the U. S. Marshal.

[] Selective Service file indicated a residence

[]
RALPH and JAMES EMERY, friends, who owned a string of race horses, and the EMERYs might be at Hialeah, Florida.

31-0-1493, 1493A

Memo, SAC Chicago from Director dated 12/15/48 regarding "UNKNOWN SUBJECT, JIMMY EMERY, [] FRANK LA PORT, White Slave Traffic Act" enclosed two copies of an anonymous letter dated 12/3/48 complaining of prostitution activities in Chicago, Illinois.

The letter to "Dear Sir" states that one of the rottenest streets in America was State Street, Calumet City, Illinois. The syndicate head men were JIMMY EMERY, [] and FRANK LA PORT (of Chicago Heights) were the law there and the police were their stoogies.

The envelope was postmarked McKeesport, Pa., 12/4/48.

CG 94-604

62-3375-1855 p.282

General Crime Survey, Period: October 15, 1949 to April 15, 1950 General Crime Conditions Within The Chicago Division under caption "Cook County-Blue Island-South Chicago Heights, Illinois" states that JIMMY EMERY still resided and operated around Chicago Heights.

62-3375-2357 p.97

Re General Investigative Intelligence File-January 15, 1951 to December 15, 1951-General Crime Conditions Within the Chicago Division.

Under "Notorious Types and Places of Amusement-South Side of Chicago-[redacted]"

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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62-3375-2529 p.120,121

Re General Investigative Intelligence File - Period June 15, 1952 to December 15, 1952 -General Crime Conditions Within Chicago Division.

Chicago Heights, Illinois

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] furnished the following information.

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"The Cooperative Music Company, which was originally located at 1724 South Halsted Street, has moved to a place two doors south of its original location. This

62-3375-2529 p. 120,121 Cont.

company is still operated by JAMES EMERY and FRANK LA PORTE. EMERY and LA PORTE are still connected with alleged syndicate and also in Chicago Heights and Calumet City area. Through the Music Company they handle juke boxes, cigarette machines, racing sheets, horse racing, and slot machines. JAMES EMERY was a race horse owner who raced horses throughout the country. He has recently purchased a farm, the exact address unknown, and is located in the general vicinity of Cicero Avenue and 159th Street, Harvey, Illinois.

62-3375-2704 p.59,61,63,65,99,100,173

General Investigative Intelligence File Period:
December 15, 1952, to June 15, 1953, General Crime Conditions
Within Chicago Division reflects the following under caption
"JAMES EMERY, wa. JIMMY":

"By-the-Way-Farms, Thornton Township, 159th Street, approximate age 65, male, white. EMERY is a retired overlord of syndicate operations in Chicago Heights and Calumet City area. He reportedly is presently in retirement and his principal interest is traveling the country with his stable of race horses. The principal tracks which EMERY takes his horses to are in the Southern and Midwestern Sections of the country. EMERY has been overseer of syndicate operations in the Calumet City-Chicago Heights area for the last thirty years. It is reported that the only individual in syndicate operations in the Chicago area that EMERY [redacted]

[redacted] JIM EMERY is also alleged to have an interest in the Co-operative Music Company located at 1720 South Halsted Street, Chicago Heights, Illinois. EMERY is married, his wife residing at 2606 South Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, Illinois."

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The survey also contained the following information regarding "RALPH EMERY":

"812 Memorial Drive, Chicago Heights, Illinois, white, male, age 34, height 5'7", weight 150 lbs., blue eyes, black hair. RALPH EMERY is the son of the retired syndicate boss, JIM EMERY. He runs the Swing Club at 104 State Street with JOE GUZZINO; reportedly has the syndicate controlled concession on cigarettes vending machines in the Chicago Heights-Calumet City area."

CG 94-604

62-3375-2704 p.59,61,63,65,99,100,173 Cont.

Page 61

Information regarding JOSEPH GUZZINO who was a body guard of JIM EMERY.

Page 63

Information regarding FRANK LA PORTE who was immediately responsible to syndicate chief JIM EMERY.

Page 65

Information regarding [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
JIM EMERY, a retired syndicate boss in the Chicago area.

Page 99

Information regarding [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] JAMES
EMERY.

Page 100

The Swing Bar at 106 West State Street, Calumet City, was formerly owned by RALPH EMERY, the son of JAMES EMERY, and JOE GUZZINO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Page 173

On March 13, 1953, [REDACTED] (NA)
advised that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] received an anonymous call in which the informant claimed that he knew the names of the men who killed DENNIS KELLY in Hammond, Indiana. The informant
[REDACTED]

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62-3375-2704 p.59,61,63,65,99,100,173 Cont.

[redacted] named EMERY, was the man who killed DENNIS KELLY.

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94-519-13 p. 58,59

Re General Investigative Intelligence File-Period
June 15, 1953 to December 15, 1953 - General Crime Conditions
Within the Chicago Division.

Under "South Cook County"-South Section of Cook County--it is stated as reflected in previous crime survey, that the Cooperative Music Company which is located at 1728 S. Halsted Street, Chicago Heights, Illinois, is still in operation and is being operated by JAMES EMERY and FRANK LA PORTE. EMERY and LA PORTE are still connected with the alleged syndicate and also have connections in Chicago Heights and Calumet City area. Through the music company they obtain juke boxes, cigarette machines, and racing sheets for horse races.

FRANK LA PORTE was interviewed and he advised he has an interest in the Cooperative Music Company, which is located at 1728 South Halsted St. in Chicago Heights. FRANK LA PORTE with JAMES EMERY control all juke box machines in the Chicago Heights and Calumet City area.

JAMES EMERY, with aliases VINCENZO AMMIRTO of 5101 West 147th Street, was interviewed and he stated that his only interest is in horse racing and the breeding of racing stock. EMERY has a farm at this address and he has numerous stables and pasture lands. EMERY advised that since he has had a heart attack [redacted]

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[redacted] EMERY also advised that he has purchased a one-third interest in the Italian Village [redacted]
[redacted]

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94-519-13 p. 58,59 Cont.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] JOSEPH GUZZINO has been known from previous Crime Surveys to operate gambling places in Calumet City. It will further be noted that from previous Crime Surveys [REDACTED]

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62-4844-16

Re memo to Director to SAC Chicago re "Mafia"
General Investigative Intelligence File.

[REDACTED]
Bureau of Narcotics, 817 New Post Office Building, Chicago, Illinois made available his file on the Mafia. The section of the file covering the period from April 4, 1951 to January 28, 1954 were reviewed.

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The file shows no sources and in only a few instances are direct statement made that these individuals are suspected of Mafia connections.

The most concrete statement found in the file concerned GIACOMO AMMIRATO, with alias JAMES EMERY, JOE VERNI and "J" of 2606 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, Illinois.

A memorandum in the file showed that no source stated that AMMIRATO is an alleged Mafia member, and that he visited CHARLES "LUCKY" LUCIANO in Italy during period of September 1948 and April, 1949. In the past he has handled prize fighters, operated a grocery store, and has operated an automobile sales agency. Now his only business, other than horse racing, is an interest in the Chicago Heights Amusement Co., which handle jukeboxes. His only

CG 94-604

62-4844-16 Cont.

criminal record, according to this memorandum, is that arising out of ATU case #375 M, which was an arrest on October 12, 1928, for violation of the National Prohibition Act. For this he was fined \$100.

94-519-112 p.104,105

Re General Investigative Intelligence File-Period December 15, 1953 to June 15, 1954-General Crime Conditions Within the Chicago Division.

The Calumet City Resident Agency-dictated by SA JOSEPH L. SYLVESTER and ELMER W. LARSON, JR.,:

The Cooperative Music Company, which is located at 1728 South Halsted Street, Chicago Heights, is still in operation and is being operated by JAMES EMERY and FRANK LA PORTE. These individuals are still connected with the alleged syndicate and also have connections in Chicago Heights and Calumet City area. Through the music company they obtained juke boxes, cigarette machines and racing sheets for horse races.

JOSEPH GUZZINO, who has been known in the past to operate gambling places in Calumet City, is a bodyguard for FRANK LA PORTE and JAMES EMERY.

JAMES EMERY, wa., VINCENZO AMMIRATO, has a farm at 5101 West 147th Street, Cook Co. on which is carried the breeding of racing stock. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Under "Political Tieups with Organized Crime"

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CG 94-604

94-519-235 p. 98,99,100

Re General Investigative Intelligence File-Period
June 15, 1954 to December 15, 1954-General Crime Conditions
Within the Chicago Division-Section J-Chicago Division
Exclusive of Chicago.

The following was dictated by SA JOSEPH L.
SYLVESTER.

The Chicago Heights Resident Agency

B) Individual Mobsters and Hoodlums

The following information has been reflected in
previous crime surveys and has not been changed to date:

JAMES EMERY was., VINCENZO AMMERATTI, has a
farm located at 5101 West 147th Street, Midlothian. This
farm JAMES EMERY carries on the breeding and raising of
race horse stock.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Page 100

Political Tieups with Organized Crime

[REDACTED]

94-519-324 p.1

Chicago Daily News, Red Streak Edition, October
18, 1954, page 1, column 6 reflects article entitled "Hoodlum
Ruled Off Track-EMERY Exposed by Daily News."

94-519-324 p.1 Cont.

JIM EMERY, alias VINCENZO AMMERATTI, a racing-stable owner suspected of being the Number One CAPONE Syndicate representative at the tracks, has been barred from racing at Sportman's Park.

The action was a result of the exposure of EMERY's criminal connections by the Daily News.

[redacted] of Sportsman's, barred EMERY by refusing him stable space.

[redacted] said he was informed EMERY will take his stable south.

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At Keeneland Park in Lexington, Ky., which is now racing, [redacted] said no application had been received from EMERY to race his horses there.

EMERY is a prize example of underworld citizens slipping through the thin security regulations of Illinois racing. He has run a stable at local tracks for years and operated openly.

EMERY For two generations or more has been regarded as a big wheel in the CAPONE syndicate operation in the Chicago Heights area.

EMERY has had a large stable of horses running in his name, and owns the By-the-Way farm on W. 159th St., Thornton Township, near Washington Park race track.

EMERY's 2 year old, Twenty-Five, won the fourth race at Hawthorne last Thursday and returned \$77. to win, \$37.60 to place and \$15.80 to show.

Among Police officials, there are two schools of thought about EMERY. Some believe that he has retired from the mob. Other point out that you don't retire from this outfit, and insist that EMERY still reports, directly to TONY ACCARDO, the present boss man of the syndicate.

94-519-324 p.1 Cont.

EMERY has spent most of the years in his adopted country as the associate of alky cooks, gamblers, vice-mongers and gunmen. EMERY was indicted twice in 1929 in the so-called Chicago Heights conspiracy case, which charged more than 200 offenses to violate the law.

The first indictment was dismissed. EMERY pleaded guilty on the second indictment and was fined \$500, which he paid in court.

During the 1921 cleanup drive in Chicago Heights, a "JIMMY EMORY" was indicted with a score or more racketeers. the charge after his name was "disorderly house."

In the early 1940's, after he had appeared as a horse owner, EMERY is noted in newspaper clippings as a lieutenant of the late FRANK NITTI, the gang leader who killed himself in 1943.

EMERY has lately come to the attention of Immigration and Naturalization officials of the Department of Justice, who have EMERY's background under investigation in their general search for undesirable aliens.

EMERY was naturalized in 1925, but his citizenship was cancelled by the Bureau of Naturalization in 1932, according to the records in the Federal Building.

His citizenship was restored March 19, 1946, by a U.S. District Court Order.

Investigators for the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau have long had a gimlet eye on EMERY, in the belief that he is the link between the CAPONE gangsters and racing.

But EMERY's record as a licensed owner in Illinois has only a few technical violations on it, including a \$50 fine in 1951 for starting a horse not in proper condition.

CG 94-604

94-519-324 p.1 Cont.

After an odd looking race at Lincoln Fields in 1938, a steward reported that he "deplored the participation of JAMES EMERY in racing" in Illinois, but no formal charges were placed against the horse owner.

How does a man with a long background of gang connections become a veteran around the Illinois tracks, as EMERY has become?

[redacted] of the state racing board points out that this is an "inherited situation", and that the present board has begun action to clear hoodlum influence out of the \$100 million per year sport over which the state board presides.

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[redacted] of the racing board, points out that the licensing officials of the board issue some 5300 state license every year to owners, jockeys, trainers and grooms.

These licenses are renewable every year, and once granted they are not likely to be challenged later, unless the owner, trainer or jockey has violated some of the rules of racing.

The rules of the state racing board say that no license should be issued to any person, "who is connected with or associated with any person engaged in bookmaking, pool selling or other illegal enterprises."

Another rule bars persons convicted of a crime.

Still another rule is intended to bar anyone "who is engaged in any activity or practices which are undesirable or detrimental to the best interests of the public or the sport of horse racing."

A casual examination of EMERY's background would suggest that these rules were written specifically to keep characters like him out of the horse parks.

CG 94-604.

94-519-324 p. 1 Con't.

EMERY has a criminal conviction on his record, he has been and is associated with some of the notorious gamblers in Calumet City, Blue Island, and Chicago Heights, and even a racing steward has gone on record as saying that EMERY was no decoration to the sport.

But there is nothing in the records of the state racing board to indicate that anyone has ever done a double take on EMERY in his annual application for renewal of owner's license.

The 1954 application was approved in routine fashion last April 30. The licensing board members who signed EMERY's current license application [redacted]

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On EMERY's current application, he listed seven horses in his stables.

As of April, 1954, the EMERY stable included two 5 year-olds, "L PROO" and "ALHAPEPED", a 8 year old, "LINCOLN's DAY, and four 2 year olds, "Don't Fail Me", "Argument," "Viruzza" and "TINLEY BOY".

94-519-317 p. 2

Anonymous source furnished typewritten report dated October 22, 1954 and date stamped Chicago Office on October 26, 1954.

This report states, "The indication is that the syndicate operations at the race tracks are not a casual, offhand array of manipulations by individual hoods who happen to like horses, but are strictly business, controlled from the top."

"There are two arms--the stable area, dealing with the actual running of races, doping, attempts, to control trainers, owners, jockeys--anyone they can reach. The other branch is the grandstand area, handling finances. They work closely together.

CG 94-604

94-519-317 p.2 Cont.

Concerning the back stretch operation. Key man is [redacted] who operates through personal contact and through his messenger, [redacted]

JIM EMERY was believed a direct line from ACCARDO to the tracks. He now is eliminated, outwardly at least. One of his habits at Arlington was making the rounds of the jockey's quarters [redacted]

94-519-420

The Chicago American, Diamond Final Edition, dated May 31, 1955, page 19, column 3 contained an article captioned "CAPONE Aid Denied Stalls At Balmoral."

Five horses from the stable of JAMES EMERY, former AL CAPONE aid, have been refused stall space at Balmoral Jockey Club.

Officials of the club, formerly Lincoln Fields, informed EMERY no stall space was immediately available.

In the group which accompanied the horses was said to be [redacted] for EMERY's horses. EMERY later protested to club officials. He was told they would hold a meeting tomorrow to decide on his application to race at Balmoral.

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EMERY said he had been legitimately licensed by the Illinois Racing Board and has a right to race his horses anywhere in the state.

Tomorrow's meeting was expected to pass on EMERY's application to race at Balmoral and possibly also might determine his future as an owner.

Club officials present will include [redacted]
[redacted]

KLINE WEATHERFORD, former FBI agent [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

also was expected to be present.

CG 94-604

94-519-420 Cont.

Balmoral officials said that twice before the meet opened this year, EMERY had made application for stall space. He had been turned down both times because he did not yet have his 1955 license from the Illinois board.

EMERY could not be reached for comment. His friends said he plans, if necessary, to take his case through the courts. He feels he would not have been held a desirable citizen in the eyes of the Illinois Racing Board.

EMERY, said his friends, takes the view that a track has the right to bar anyone from attendance at the races on grounds of undesirability, but he believes that they cannot bar an owner duly licensed by state officials, the friends said. EMERY also is known as VINCENZO AMMERATTI. He is alleged formerly to have run bootlegging interests in the far Southwest Side of Chicago for CAPONE. He gave his address on his license application as 5101 W. 147th St., Tinley Park.

94-519-383

The Chicago Daily News, Blue Streak Edition, dated June 2, 1955, page 45, column 8 contained an article entitled "EMERY Denied Stall Space by Balmoral."

JAMES EMERY, onetime CAPONE associate was denied stall space for his string of five race horses Wednesday by Balmoral, racing at Washington Park. The Illinois Racing Board awarded EMERY an owner's license for this season last Saturday and an application for stall space followed.

EMERY threatened to go to court if refused stall space.

CG 94-604

94-519-383 Cont.

It is expected that EMERY, alias VINCENZO AMMIRATI, will be denied stall space at both Arlington and Washington as the same management runs all three associations.

The Balmoral decision to bar EMERY declared:

"Official notice that the Racing Board had approved an owner's license for EMERY, who had applied for stall space, was not received by Balmoral until May 28. Commitments for available stalls have been made. After due consideration, EMERY was not allotted stalls."

94-519-(Sub 6) 17 p.1

Re memo to Director, dated July 13, 1955, subject, LOUIS CAMPAGNA, was-Top Hoodlum Coverage."

Re SAC letter 53-58 dated August 25, 1953, and Chicago letter dated March 31, 1955.

On May 30, 1955, LOUIS CAMPAGNA died of a heart attack while fishing off the coast of Florida on a yacht owned by Attorney [redacted] who has in the past represented many of the Chicago hoodlums. His wake was held in the mortuary at 2921 South Harlem Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois. According to the Chicago Tribune of June 2, 1955, the wake was attended by the heirarchy of the underworld, with TONY ACCARDO, ROCCO FISCHETTI, JOE BELIMCO, CLAUDE MADDOX, JOE AIUPPA, JOHN LARDINO, SAM BATTAGLIA, SAM GIANCANA, JACK CERONE, [redacted] RALPH PIERCE, JAMES EMERY and FRANK LA PORTE.

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CG 94-604

94-519-611 p. 118, 119

General Investigative Intelligence File - Period -
December 15, 1955 to June 15, 1956, -General Crime Conditions
within the Chicago Division.

B. Individual Mobsters and Hoodlums

As reported in previous surveys, the Cooperative Music Company, 1728 S. Halsted, Chicago Heights, is still in operation and is still a distributing point for jukeboxes, slot machines, pinball machines, horse racing forms, and cigarette machines. This company is still operating under the same individuals, namely, JAMES EMERY and FRANK LA PORTE. It will be noted that both of these individuals have connections with the alleged syndicate, as well as connections in Chicago Heights and the Calumet City, Illinois area.

page 119

[redacted] advised that JAMES EMERY is still in bad physical condition and is endeavoring to sell his racing horses which he now operates in the Chicago area.

[redacted] He advised, however, that EMERY is running the horses under other people's names.

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94-519-670 p. 110

Re: General Investigation Intelligence File -
Period - June 15, 1956 to December 15, 1956 - General Crime
Conditions within the Chicago Division.

B. Individual Mobsters and Hoodlums

As reported in previous surveys, the Cooperative Music Company, 1728 Halsted Street, Chicago Heights, is still in operation, and is still distributing juke boxes, slot machines, horse racing forms and cigarette machines. This company is still operating under the same individuals, namely JAMES EMERY and FRANK LA PORTE. It will be noted that both of these individuals have connections with the alleged syndicate as well as connections in Chicago Heights and Calumet City, Illinois.

94-604-38

Re: Memo to SAC, Chicago from SA JOSEPH L.
SYLVESTER - Subject [redacted]

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CG 94-604

94-604-38 Con't.

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[REDACTED] He stated that there would probably be a meeting soon to determine who will take his place.

7-660-1861 p. 1

Chicago memo to St. Louis dated 10-25-57 regarding "Grenap" reflects that on the night of 3-6-57, a wake was held for JAMES EMERY at the Gerardi Funeral Home, Chicago Heights, Illinois. EMERY was the alleged syndicate representative in horse racing affairs, and once was the lieutenant to FRANK "THE ENFORCER" NITTI, a chief in the Capone Syndicate. An automobile registered [REDACTED]

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was observed at the wake by SA [REDACTED] Many local hoodlums also were in attendance.

94-519-701

Chicago Daily News, Red Streak Edition, March 7, 1957, page 6, column 6, reflects article, "Funeral for Hood in Style of '20's" further "Syndicate Brass, Flowers Jam Rites for James Emery".

An old style of the 1920's has been revived--plushy funerals for hoodlums.

This was demonstrated Thursday as JAMES EMERY, 64, an old timer in syndicate affairs, was laid to rest.

AL CAPONE himself was virtually sneaked into the cemetery when he died in 1947. But EMERY, never very well known, got the full treatment. Men representing every field of hoodlum endeavor turned out for his wake and funeral.

CG 94-604

94-519-701 Con't.

Hundreds of floral pieces, some of them six feet high, were sent.

The mourners filled three rooms of the Gerardi Chapel, 2520 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights. Eleven station wagons were used to transport the flowers to the cemetery. More than 80 cars joined in the funeral procession.

Top syndicate brass reportedly turned out for the ENERY funeral and held a smoky conference in an office of the chapel.

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A Capone family member was there, it was said. So were such men as [REDACTED] MURRAY "THE GALL" COMPIENYS, GEORGE "BABE" RUFFANELLA and FRANKIE LA LONTE.

ENERY, who died Saturday in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, was the syndicate representative in horse racing affairs. He once was lieutenant to FRANK "THE ENFORCER" NITTI, a chief in the old syndicate.

94-604-53

Re: memo to SAC, Chicago from SAC, Cleveland, dated August 6, 1957, regarding subject, "JAMES ENERY - G.I.F."

(This memorandum mentions bootleggers and associates of the Capone mob in Chicago--however, the name of JAMES ENERY is not mentioned in the body of this memo.)

92-466-80 p. 29

Re: Memo to SAC from SA FRANCIS J. STEFANIK, subject, "Top Hoodlum Program" dated 3-20-58.

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CG 94-604

92-466-80 p. 29 Con't.

FRANK LA PORTE is an old time bootlegger restricting his activities to Calumet City, Indiana, and Chicago Heights, Illinois. Book making, prostitution, and bootlegging has been his forte.

LA PORTE was investigated with JAMES ASHERATO, aka JAMES EMERY, deceased, in connection with Charles "LUCKY" LUCIANO activities in the narcotic traffic.